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UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

LOS ALAMOS SCIENTIFIC LABORATORY  
(CONTRACT W-7405-ENG-36)  
P.O. Box 1663  
LOS ALAMOS, NEW MEXICO

IN REPLY

REFER TO: ADSP

January 25, 1961

Dr. Joshua Lederberg  
Stanford University Medical Center  
Palo Alto, California

Dear Dr. Lederberg:

The Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory is planning a series of Summer Evening Lectures to be given this summer at Los Alamos by distinguished scholars in various fields of science. I am writing to ask whether you would be willing to give one of these lectures on some aspect of your very interesting work in exobiology. The Laboratory will defray your expenses incident to travel and subsistence and offer you an honorarium of three hundred dollars (\$300).

Our Summer Evening Lectures are held in our Laboratory auditorium and are open to the public. We usually have an audience of some five hundred people consisting mainly of our professional scientists, with the balance composed of wives, school teachers, and a few teen-aged children. We visualize scholarly talks aimed at what one might call the intelligent lay public. Our purpose in these lectures is to foster something of an academic atmosphere in our geographically isolated community.

Dr. George Beadle, who gave an evening lecture here a few years ago, assures us that you could address this group in a truly elegant manner. In addition, I think you might enjoy spending a few hours or a day here with Dr. Wright Langham and his radiobiology research group whose work in radiation biology you would undoubtedly find interesting. The group is actively engaged in studying effects of low-level irradiation of successive generations of mice on the viability of the species. It also has an interest in radiation problems of space and is collaborating with the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in developing a detector to measure the gamma-ray spectrum of the lunar surface sometime in 1962.

I hope you will react favorably to this invitation and that we may have you here sometime this summer.

Very truly yours,



N. E. Bradbury  
Director

WHC/dc

cc: W. H. Langham  
W. H. Crew